

KILLING A CITY.

WHAT DRIVING OUT SALOONS DID TO BELLINGHAM, WASH.

Some Temperance Facts and Figures One Can't Get Away From

The city of Bellingham, Washington, affords an excellent opportunity for a study of the oft-repeated assertion that "prohibition kills a town," that the license fee is needed for public improvements and that the saloons make business. Bellingham is a seaport city with agricultural and lumber territory contiguous. Recent interviews with many of the prominent officials and citizens of Bellingham developed the following facts, which are quoted verbatim:

"When Bellingham voted dry in November, 1910, there were forty-eight saloons yielding a license revenue of \$48,000. We have gotten along without that and are not in debt. The city has purchased an auto fire truck and paid for it. When the city voted dry, a prominent hotel man was about to build an addition to his hotel to cost from \$50,000 to \$60,000. He stopped, thinking there would be no need of it in a dry town. He is now building an addition costing \$225,000.

"The area of paved streets is larger, entailing considerable additional expense upon the street department for cost and maintenance, but it has all been carried without increase of taxation and without incurring debt.

"Men who used to drink their pay checks in saloons and cash away their money are now sober and if overtaken by accident or illness in their families, do not become a charge upon the town as was formerly so often the case.

"The president of one of the largest grocery firms in the city asserts: 'Business has actually increased over the past year. I think Bellingham never had brighter prospects, and nine-tenths of the business men will tell you the same. Men who two years ago were spending their money in the saloon, are buying groceries and paying cash for them. There are fewer 'dead beats' than have been in this city in twenty-two years.'

"The increase in bank deposits in one year is \$686,078.99. The fact that the city went dry is no hindrance to good business. Some men who were radically wet at first, and still favor the saloon, have to admit that business is better than ever before, especially in clothing, dry goods and groceries."

Special inquiry of three leading wholesale grocery houses elicited practically the same reply in each case: "Business inside the city limits is better than at any previous time."

A leading real estate dealer assured us that business in his line is "much better. Young men are buying homes and paying for them in installments. A number of new ones are being built. There are fewer good residences vacant than before and rents are better." From another insurance and real estate dealer we received this statement: "This year shows a good increase over last year. The outlook is encouraging. They present dry conditions have at least not hindered progress."

A traveling man familiar with conditions along the west coast said: "Bellingham looks the most prosperous of any town on the coast."

One of the best known physicians of the city declared: "I did not do as large a volume of business last year, but the per cent of collections was the best it has ever been. When I asked if the decrease in drinking and vice would naturally affect his business, the doctor smilingly replied, 'It certainly would!'"

The head of a large hardware establishment carrying a complete stock of hardware, paints, stoves, etc., remarked: "Our business is very satisfactory. We have had a steady increase. Building conditions are improving. There is a decidedly encouraging increase in the number of small houses being erected. We employ about forty men. Salaries are being increased. Conditions are wonderfully satisfactory not only in the city but in the county." Remembering that there is but one wet town in the county this is good testimony.

A member of a well known firm of attorneys, speaking comparatively said: "Sumas the only wet town in this county, with a population from 1,500 to 2,000 on July the Fourth had eighty arrests growing out of drink. Bellingham in the first six months of this year has had only ninety-seven. Internal revenue statistics show that there were more unlicensed dealers paying a gross tax before the saloons were closed than since. People who formerly patronized the saloons now pay cash for household expenses and live well. While other cities were having a 'soup house brigade' last winter we had none. A man whom I used to see always under the influence of drink has straightened up and recently sent a check to the Y. M. C. A.

In the three and one-half years immediately preceding the prohibition there were eight murders in the county, five of which were traceable to liquor. In 1911 there was one. In 1910, with forty-five saloons, there were 991 arrests for drunkenness; in 1911, with no saloons, 255. In 1910, with forty-five saloons, the total arrests for all causes was 2,982, while in 1911, under the dry regime, the total arrests for all causes was 1,501. Quoting from police records: "During 1911 every drunk was arrested. Many of the arrests during the latter part of 1911 were of vagrants, driven out of Vancouver, B. C. Portland and down sound cities, and were not of criminals. During 1911, with forty-five saloons, very little attention was paid to the drunks who thronged the streets and insulting pedestrians.

The head of one of the principal real estate and insurance firms in reply to the question, "Has the closing of saloons?" replied: "The whole county has the saloons helped Bellingham financially?" reply, "It has." "In what way?" "The whole state has been in a state of financial depression, but Bellingham has been more prosperous than the other large cities or cities of its size, that are wet. More people are building homes, and a substantial, desirable class of people are coming here to live."

Surely the above testimony enough to convince any jury that a city without the saloons and their trail of evil consequences, is better off in every way than a city burdened with the same, and proves beyond all doubt that a city can live and grow and prosper without the blood

OREGON EQUITY NEWS

The Equity is growing.

Our National President says five times faster than before.

We are anxious to have our salaries raised and our future program is going to be interesting on that issue.

Now is the time to join the Equity and help send this crazy market system to some place in Antiquity.

If Supt. Gary will pitch right in and help us get our salaries raised to what his is now we will take his case under advisement.

WORK SLOW, BUILD CAREFULLY, PULL TOGETHER AND SUCCESS WILL COME

I was born out in the underbrush, grew up in the backwoods and am now trying to eke out an existence in the uncult. So I don't understand modern business methods. When it comes to applying ourselves as an organization toward that end, I rely a great deal for my ideas upon Up-to-date farming, and for my issue under the head of Lessons in Co-Operation I find this: "The first business to be attempted should be co-operative marketing or buying. Start in a small way. Do not attempt too much. Appoint a member of good business ability to the position of manager. Do much to lead over the south end of your line as the north end, unless it is this salary raising epidemic has escaped from under the control of the osteopathic health officer."

OUR COMMON SECRETARY OF STATE WANTS HIS SALARY RAISED AND HE OUGHT TO ADVISE HIM TO RAISE STRAWBERRIES FOR THE PORTLAND MARKET.

Most everybody wants their salaries raised. We taxpayers will have to order a car load of jackscrews and then work them upside down.

We do not understand why the P. Ry. L. & P. Co. charges four times as much for its coal as the street car line does for its coal. The street car line is a public utility and is in the public interest. The P. Ry. L. & P. Co. is a monopoly and is in the interest of a few.

OUT AT MT. PLEASANT THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH FOUND A COLE BACILLI IN THE SCHOOL WELL, SO THE KIDS GET WATER FROM ANOTHER WELL THAT MAY HAVE TWO IN IT, WE DON'T KNOW, NEITHER DO WE KNOW HOW THE THING CAME TO FALL IN OUR WELL OR WHAT HIS HIDE IS WORTH, BUT WE OUGHT TO RAISE THE SALARY OF OUR HEALTH BOARD.

If Oregon City is going to lose \$10,000 from people who want to buy booze, they might build some hitching sheds and sell groceries, drygoods and good will and be elevated on every street and let the farmer chase blind pigs.

OUR NEW U. S. SENATOR, LANE, HAS BEEN PLACED ON SEVERAL IMPORTANT COMMITTEES THAT FARMERS ARE INTERESTED IN AND WE BELIEVE HE IS WORKING TO BETTER THE CONDITION OF THE FARMER. OUR CONGRESSMAN IS YOUNG AND UNMARRIED AND NOT ON A SINGLE COMMITTEE PRINTED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. SOME LADY SHOULD TAKE HIM UNDER PROTECTION AND HAVE SPEAKER CLARK PUT HIM ON ABOUT SIXTEEN COMMITTEES, AND HE TOO MIGHT GET HIS SALARY RAISED.

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE U. S. HAS SAID THAT THE STATES CAN REGULATE RAILROAD RATES. IOWA SAID ONE AND A HALF CENTS PER MILE TO THE STATE FAIR. THE RAILROADS WENT TO ANOTHER COURT AND GOT AN INJUNCTION PROHIBITING THE STATE FROM ENFORCING THE LAW. AND YET YOU CAN BUY A TICKET FROM PORTLAND TO KANSAS CITY AND GO THE WAY OF SAN FRANCISCO AND THE ROCK ISLAND THROUGH TEXAS AND OKLAHOMA ABOUT ONE QUARTER OF A CENT PER MILE AND MR. YOKUM SAID THE RAILROADS OF THE U. S. RECEIVED ONE BILLION DOLLARS MORE THAN THE COST OF OPERATING THEM LAST YEAR. THE STOCK HOLDERS NO DOUBT RAISED THEIR OWN SALARIES.

THE ALLOPATHS OR DOCTORS' TRUST HAS A BILL BEFORE THE SENATE KNOWN AS THE OWENS' BILL AND IF IT PASSES NO OTHER SCHOOL OF HEALING NEED APPLY. THEY CONTINUE TO LET THEIR PATIENTS DIE AND FILL UP CEMETERIES AND EMPTILY THE PEOPLE'S POCKET BOOKS AND NO ONE OUTSIDE WILL BE ALLOWED TO SERVE ON HEALTH BOARDS AND PREVENT EPIDEMICS OR HELP THE SICK IN ANY WAY. IF ALLOPATHS ALWAYS CURED OR ALWAYS HELPED WITH THEIR DOPE IT WOULDN'T BE QUITE SO BAD BUT OTHER SCHOOLS ARE CURING SOME CASES THAT THE ALLOPATHS FAIL TO EVEN TREAT. NO DOCTORS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO SERVE ON ANY HEALTH BOARD. IT IS THE PEOPLE WHO PAY THESE BIG BILLS TO DOCTORS, FOR THEY ARE INTERESTED IN GOOD HEALTH. THE DOCTORS' TRUST IS INTERESTED IN DISEASE EPIDEMICS AND EXCESSIVE CHARGES. THEY TOO, WANT THEIR SALARIES RAISED.

THEY TELL US FARMERS THAT THE REASON WE CAN'T BUY A GOOD SET OF HARNESS OR A GOOD PAIR OF SHOES IS BECAUSE THE LEATHER IS FILLED WITH SALTS AND GLUCOSE AND IT WEIGH HEAVY. IT SELLS FOR 100 POUNDS. WHAT IF WE SHOULD HAVE IT INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, CONFISCATED AND CRAMMED AND PUT FARMERS ON THE INSPECTION LIST AND CHARGE THE WHOLE BUSINESS UP TO THE MEN WHO ARE GETTING THEIR SALARIES RAISED BY ADULTERATING OUR WEARING APPAREL.

WE ARE MORE PLEASED TO CONGRATULATE THE OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE ON THEIR EDITORIAL REGARD TO OUR CITY'S MOST NOTED LAW GIVER AND STATESMAN, W. S. U'REN. IF WE DECIDE NOT TO ENTER THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR ALONG WITH THE REST OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY, WE MAY BE FOR W. S. U'REN TOO.

A BILL HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE LINDBERG, OF MINNESOTA, TO COMPEL PURE LEATHER IN SHOES. OF COURSE IF THIS PASSES AND BECOMES A LAW THE LEATHER TRUST WILL ADVANCE THE PRICE AND THEN WE WILL WANT ANOTHER CONGRESSMAN TO INTRODUCE ANOTHER BILL—BUT WHAT'S THE USE, WE WANT OUR SALARY RAISED.

NO BODY YET HAS STARTED AN AGITATION FOR A STATE MARKET IN PORTLAND TO BE OWNED, OPERATED AND GOVERNED BY THE STATE OF OREGON. WISCONSIN HAS A LAW ALONG THIS LINE AND SUPERVISION IS VESTED WITH THE DAIRY COMMISSIONER. JUST LET THE EQUITY ALONE AND WE WILL OWN, GOVERN AND OPERATE OUR OWN MARKET IN PORTLAND AND THE CONSUMER WON'T KICK.

DR. PITZER, WHO WAS 33 YEARS PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL COLLEGE (ALLOPATH) HIT THE DOCTOR'S TRUST THE HARDEST BLOW OF ANYONE I EVER READ AND DR. HOLCOMB, AT THE HEAD OF THE HOMEOPATHY SCHOOL SAID IF ALL THE MEDICINE WAS IN THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA, IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR MANKIND AND ALL THE WORSE FOR THE FISHES.

THESE MEN KNEW ALL THE SUPERSTITION WRAPPED UP IN THE WORD DOCTOR AND MEDICINE, AND WERE FAIR ENOUGH TO SAY OTHER SCHOOLS COULD CURE DISEASES AND SHOULD HAVE THE SAME RIGHT TO TRY. PRACTICING THEY CALL IT, AND I GUESS THAT WAS ABOUT THE RIGHT WORD.

FARMERS HAVE TONS AND TONS OF FREE LITERATURE SENT THEM ON HOW TO CARE FOR BREEDING STOCK AND THE OFFSPRING BUT CONTINUE TO WORK HARD SIXTEEN HOURS PER DAY AND THE GOOD WIFE A FEW

GREAT WORDS OF GREAT MAN

W. W. MYERS COMMENTS SPLENDID PRINCIPLES OF PRESIDENT WILSON

Editor Courier:—

For fear you will forget to give notice of President Wilson's speech at Swarthmore, Pa., printed in Sunday's Oregonian following are some of his words:

"The President spoke in a big tent not far from the spot where Penn landed, the exercises being commemorative, also, of founders' day at Swarthmore College. He was enthusiastically cheered.

"I would not be interested," the President said, "in celebrating the memory of William Penn if his conquest had been merely a material one. Sometimes we have been laughed at by foreigners in particular for boasting of the size of the American continent, the size of our domain as a Nation, for they have naturally suggested that we did not make it."

"But I claim that every race and every man is as big as the thing he takes possession of and that the size of America is in some sense a standard of the size and capacity of the American people; but the extent of the American continent is not what gives America distinction in the annals of the world. It is the professed purpose of the conquest, which was to see to it that every foot of that land should be the home of free, self-governing people, who should have no government whatever which did not rest upon the consent of the governed."

"We would like to believe that all this hemisphere is devoted to the same sacred purpose and that nowhere any government endures which is sustained by blood or supported by anything but the consent of the governed."

COMMENTS ON AN ERROR

Write Bases Library Arguments on Wrong Figures Printed

Editor Courier:—

I notice in last week's issue an appeal for support of the county library, where you state that the proposition would tax us 15 cents on every \$100 worth of property, making 45 cents on each \$1500 assessment, no more no less.

Now A is assessed at \$1,000 and at 15 cents on every hundred A would pay \$1.50 towards the support of the so-called county library and branches, none of which would be within reach of those who need it most.

Now Brother Farmers, I think this is simply a scheme for us fellows to help support the Carnegie Library at Oregon City. Now I for one don't propose to do so, and I believe the county court did a wise thing when it refused to make this levy, as there are hundreds of poor people in this county that have a hard time paying their taxes in two payments without burdening them further. We already support a tax which comes nearer filling the bill than a county library will.

L. Frink.

CHILDREN CRY FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

These hangeable wether of early fall bring on coughs and colds that have a weakening effect on the system, and may become chronic. Use Foley's Honey and Tar Compound. It has a very soothing and healing effect on the irritated and inflamed air passages, and will help very quickly. It is a well known family medicine that gives results. Huntley Bros. Co.

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